Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Serial No.: 10/796,126
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC Ref: Q80242

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended):   An optical fiber cable comprising at least one central strength member, at least one optical fiber, a metallic conductor surrounding said fiber and, surrounding said conductor, an insulative ~~a~~ layer of an insulative composition comprising mainly a mixture of polymers comprising at least one high-density first polymer and one low-density second polymer which has a lower viscosity than said first polymer, said insulative layer providing improved resistance to breakdown upon application of an electrical field.

Claim 2 (original):   The cable claimed in claim 1 wherein said first polymer has a melt flow rate less than 6 g/10 min.

Claim 3 (original)   The cable claimed in claim 1 wherein said first polymer is a high-density polyethylene and said second polymer is a low-density polyethylene.

Claim 4 (original):   The cable claimed in claim 1 wherein the proportion of said second polymer is at most 20% by weight of said polymer mixture.

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Claim 5 (original):   The cable claimed in claim 4 wherein the portion of said second polymer is from 5% to 20% by weight of said polymer mixture.

Claim 6 (original):   The cable claimed in claim 1 wherein said insulative composition further contains additives.

Claims 7-10:   Cancelled.

Claim 11 (new):   The cable claimed in claim 1, further comprising an armor layer disposed on the outside of said insulative layer.

Claim 12 (new):   The cable claimed in claim 1, wherein said metallic conductor is immediately adjacent said optical fiber and said insulative layer is immediately adjacent said metallic conductor.

Claim 13 (new):   The cable claimed in claim 12, wherein said metallic conductor is annular.

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